



United States Steel Corporation

**Statement of United States Steel in Support of Use of Stimulus Funds for
Improvements at the Soo Locks / House Resolution 80
Before the Michigan House Committee on Commerce
April 29, 2009**

United States Steel Corporation supports efforts to use federal stimulus dollars to be provided to the Army Corps of Engineers for modernization and improvements to the Soo Locks.

United States Steel Corporation, headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa., is an integrated steel producer with major production operations in the United States, Canada and Central Europe and an annual raw steelmaking capability of 31.7 million net tons. We manufacture a wide range of value-added steel sheet and tubular products for the automotive, appliance, container, industrial machinery, construction, and oil and gas industries.

U. S. Steel's North America integrated steel facilities include the Gary Works, (Indiana); Great Lakes Works (Ecorse and River Rouge, Mich.); Mon Valley Works, (Pa.); Granite City Works (Illinois); Fairfield Works (Ala.); and the Lake Erie Works and Hamilton Works (Ontario). Also in Michigan is the USS Automotive Center, a research and sales facility in Troy.

United States Steel Corporation relies heavily on the Soo locks and their operation. All of our iron ore used at our Great Lakes Works, Gary Works and Mon Valley Works, and 99% of the iron ore for our Canadian operations, moves through the Soo Locks. In 2008, we moved approximately 17,486,000 NT of iron ore, stone, trim and sinter feed for our domestic operations. This tonnage required approximately 473 vessels to move the material through the Soo locks. Additionally, we move most of our Iron Ore into Canada through the Soo Locks – approximately 6,000,000 NT per year.

The Soo locks are critical to the operation of the American steel industry and United States Steel Corporation. The locks provide a means to transport volumes of material in a cost effective and timely manner. We support efforts to modernize the locks. Those modernizations will help to keep America's steel industry competitive in the global economy.